

(a) comprises at least two T-cell epitope peptides derived from cedar pollen allergen Cry j 1 and at least two T-cell epitope peptides derived from cedar pollen allergen Cry j 2;

(b) is capable of inducing proliferation of T-cell clones specific to each of said T-cell epitope peptides; and

(c) is capable of dose-dependently inducing proliferation of peripheral lymphocytes from a cedar pollinosis patient.

Claim 4 (Amended):

D2 The peptide-based immunotherapeutic agent of claim 1, further comprising a site that is cleaved *in vivo*.

Claim 5 (Amended):

The peptide-based immunotherapeutic agent of claim 4, wherein said site is an arginine or lysine dimer.

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**Claim 6 (Amended):**

The peptide-based immunotherapeutic agent of claim 1, wherein said polypeptide contains the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NOs: 1, 2, or 3 or immunostimulatory fragments of SEQ ID NOs: 1, 2, or 3.

Claim 13 (Amended):

*Dybvig* The peptide-based immunotherapeutic agent according to claim 1, wherein each of said T-cell epitopes consists of minimum core sequences that stimulate T-cell proliferation.

Please cancel claims 3, 7-12, 14-16, and 18-30.

Please add the following new claims:

*Rule 11(c)*  
*31* 49. The peptide-based immunotherapeutic agent of claim 1, wherein each of said T-cell epitope peptides contains no cysteine residue.

D5

*32* 50. The peptide-based immunotherapeutic agent of claim 1, wherein said polypeptide molecule comprises at least one T-cell epitope peptide restricted by HLA class II DR molecule, at least one T-cell epitope peptide restricted by HLA class II DQ molecule, and at least one T-cell epitope peptide restricted by HLA class II DP molecule.

*33* 51. The peptide-based immunotherapeutic agent of claim *30*, wherein said DR molecule is DRB5\*0101, DRB4\*0101, DRB1\*0901, or DRB1\*1501, said DQ molecule is DQA1\*0102-DQB1\*0602, and said DP molecule is DPA1\*0101-DPB1\*0501, DPA1\*0202-DPB1\*0501, or DPA1\*0101-DPB1\*0201.

*34* 52. The peptide-based immunotherapeutic agent of claim *50*, wherein said polypeptide molecule consists of the amino acid sequence described in SEQ ID NO:1.

*55* 53. A method for treating or preventing the incidence of cedar pollinosis, the method comprising administering an effective amount of a peptide-based immunotherapeutic agent comprising a linear polypeptide molecule, wherein said polypeptide:

(a) comprises at least two T-cell epitope peptides derived from cedar pollen allergen Cry j 1 and at least two T-cell epitope peptides derived from cedar pollen allergen Cry j 2;

(b) is capable of inducing proliferation of T-cell clones specific to each of said T-cell epitope peptides; and

(c) is capable of dose-dependently inducing proliferation of peripheral lymphocytes from a cedar pollinosis patient.

*Rule 1,126*  
*36 54.* The method of claim <sup>35</sup> 53, wherein said peptide-based immunotherapeutic agent further comprises a site that is cleaved *in vivo*.

*37 55.* The method of claim <sup>36</sup> 54, wherein said site is an arginine or lysine dimer.

*38 56.* The method of claim <sup>35</sup> 53, wherein said T-cell epitope peptides contain no cysteine residues.

*39 57.* The method of claim <sup>35</sup> 53, wherein said polypeptide contains the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NOS:1, 2, or 3, or immunostimulatory fragments of SEQ ID NOS:1, 2, or 3.

*D5*  
*40 58.* The method of claim <sup>35</sup> 53, wherein said polypeptide molecule comprises at least one T-cell epitope peptide restricted by HLA class II DR molecule, at least one T-cell epitope peptide restricted by HLA class II DQ molecule, and at least one T-cell epitope peptide restricted by HLA class II DP molecule.

*41 59.* The method of claim <sup>40</sup> 58, wherein said DR molecule is DRB5\*0101, DRB4\*0101, DRB1\*0901, or DRB1\*1501, said DQ molecule is DQA1\*0102-DQB1\*0602, and said DP molecule is DPA1\*0101-DPB1\*0501, DPA1\*0202-DPB1\*0501, or DPA1\*0101-DPB1\*0201.

*42 60.* The method of claim <sup>40</sup> 58, wherein polypeptide molecule consists of the amino acid sequence described in SEQ ID NO:1.

*43 61.* The method of claim <sup>40</sup> 53, wherein each of said T-cell epitope peptides consists of minimum core sequences which stimulate T-cell proliferation.

*44 62.* The method of claim <sup>43</sup> 53, wherein said core sequence is SEQ ID NO:7.

*45 63.* The method of claim <sup>43</sup> 53, wherein said T-cell epitope peptides are analog peptides in which one or more amino acids of the T-cell epitope peptides are substituted.

Rule 1.12(e)

~~46~~ 64. The method of claim ~~65~~, wherein said analog peptide has the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:14.

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~~47~~ 65. The method of claim ~~55~~, which further comprises a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

~~48~~ 66. The peptide-based immunotherapeutic agent of claim 1, wherein said T-cell epitope peptides are analog peptides in which one or more amino acids of the T-cell epitope peptides are substituted.